

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

- ☐ 385 North Arrowhead Avenue - San Bernardino, CA 92415-0160 - (909) 884-4056
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- ☐ 13911 Park Ave. - Victorville, CA 92392 - (760) 243-3773
- ☐ San Bernardino County Vector Control Program  
2355 East 5th Street - San Bernardino, CA 92415-0064 - (909) 388-4600

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Also serving the cities of:

Adelanto	Montclair
Apple Valley	Needles
Barstow	Ontario
Big Bear Lake	Rancho Cucamonga
Chino	Redlands
Chino Hills	Rialto
Colton	San Bernardino
Fontana	Twentynine Palms
Grand Terrace	Upland
Hesperia	Victorville
Highland	Yucaipa
Loma Linda	Yucca Valley

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 31, 2006**  
**PHD #06-48**

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**Environmental Health**  
**Program Manager**  
**(909) 387-4688**

## **WEST NILE VIRUS FOUND IN NEW AREAS IN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**

**Two tree squirrels tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) from the communities of Crestline and Big Bear City and one bird each from the City of San Bernardino and the City of Loma Linda tested positive. This marks the first time that tree squirrels have tested positive in San Bernardino County for WNV. The birds and squirrels were collected by the San Bernardino County Vector Control Program (SBCVCP) and submitted to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Lab for examination. The WNV testing was conducted by the University of California Davis, Center for Vector-borne Diseases.**

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**The dates of collection, testing and locations for positive birds and squirrels within the jurisdiction of the San Bernardino County Vector Control Program is listed below:**

<b>DATE REPORTED</b>	<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>ZIP CODE</b>	<b>TESTED POSITIVE</b>	<b>DATE TESTED</b>
7/5/2006	AMERICAN ROBIN	1	LAKE ARROWHEAD	92352	YES	07/01/06
7/19/2006	AMERICAN CROW	1	FONTANA	92335	YES	07/19/06
7/11/2006	WESTERN SCRUB-JAY	1	VICTORVILLE	92395	YES	07/20/06
7/27/2006	AMERICAN ROBIN	1	RUNNING SPRINGS	92382	YES	08/07/06
8/1/2006	WESTERN SCREECH OWL	1	HINKLEY	92347	YES	08/14/06
8/3/2006	WESTERN SCRUB-JAY	1	UPLAND	91784	YES	08/14/06
8/14/2006	AMERICAN CROW	1	UPLAND	91786	YES	08/17/06
8/17/2006	AMERICAN CROW	1	FONTANA	92335	YES	08/17/06
8/15/2006	AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	1	LOMA LINDA	92354	YES	08/28/06
8/17/2006	EUROPEAN STARLING	1	SAN BERNARDINO	92401	YES	08/28/06
8/15/2006	EASTERN GREY SQUIRREL	1	CRESTLINE	92325	YES	08/28/06
8/17/2006	UNKNOWN SQUIRREL	1	BIG BEAR CITY	92314	YES	08/28/06

In addition to the positives identified above two mosquito samples in the Needles area also tested positive for WNV earlier this month. There have been no human or equine cases of WNV reported in San Bernardino County this season.

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The 2006 WNV season has appeared later then the last few years when positive test results came in as early as May. The WNV season can continue well into the fall months and additional positive birds and mosquitoes, as well as the potential for human and equine cases, are expected during this time. The

**SBCVCP will continue WNV control activities that consist of mosquito trapping, education, surveys, identification, elimination and treatment of mosquito breeding sites on a year-round basis.**

**Due to the continued warm weather, residents of San Bernardino County are reminded they need to be vigilant well into the fall season and do their part to reduce the risk for WNV transmission to humans and horses. County residents can Fight the Bite by following the 5 Ds:**

- Drain or Dump...Remove all standing water around your property where mosquitoes lay eggs such as birdbaths, green swimming pools, ponds, old tires, buckets, clogged gutters, or even puddles from leaky sprinklers.**
- Dawn and Dusk...Avoid spending time outside when mosquitoes are most active.**
- Dress...Wear shoes, socks, and long pants and long-sleeved shirts that are loose fitting and light colored.**
- DEET...Apply insect repellent containing DEET, according to manufacturer's directions.**
- Doors...Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes to prevent mosquitoes from entering home.**

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**If you have questions or concerns or if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live or you have standing water or green pools in your area, call San Bernardino County Vector Control Program at 800-44-ABATE (800-442-2283) or 909-388-4600. If you are in the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Ontario, Montclair or Rancho Cucamonga call (909) 635-0307 for West Valley Vector Control District.**

**You may also visit our website at [www.sbcounty.gov/dehs/vectorcontrol](http://www.sbcounty.gov/dehs/vectorcontrol) or the California Health Services West Nile website at [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov) for more information on Vector Control or West Nile Virus.**

To report dead birds call the California Department of Health Services at 1-877-WNV-BIRD (968-2473)  
or report on line at [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov).